

Message Text

SECRET

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71

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 EUR-10 PM-03 INR-10 NSC-07 CIAE-00 RSC-01

DRC-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 L-02 AEC-05 TRSE-00 SP-02 SAM-01

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R 121551Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3183

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T BONN 09400

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, GW, UK

SUBJECT: MBFR: NUCLEAR ISSUE AND BRITISH PARTICIPATION
IN PHASE II

REF: LONDON 7313 AND LONDON 7340

1. RUTH ALSO INQUIRED OF EMBOFF JUNE 11 REGARDING
RENEWED TRILATERAL SESSION ON NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF MBFR,
REFERRING TO POSSIBILITIES OFFERED BY OTTAWA MINISTE-
RIAL. BUT RUTH'S REFERENCE WAS NOT ADVANCED IN PRESSING
WAY AND EMBOFF'S RESERVED REACTION PROMPTLY ENDED
EXCHANGE.

2. COMMENT. BEFORE INITIAL TRILATERAL ON NUCLEAR ISSUES
EARLIER THIS YEAR, IT WAS GERMANS RATHER THAN BRITISH
WHO WERE TAKING THE LEAD IN PRESSING FOR CONSUL-
TATIONS. NOW THE BRITISH SEEM TO ATTACH MORE IMPORTANCE
TO SUCH TALKS WHILE THE FRG, JUDGING SLOW-DOWN IN VIENNA

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NEGOTIATIONS, TEND TO SEE NUCLEAR ISSUES AS HAVING LESS

URGENCY. END COMMENT

3. ON RELATED MATTER, RELIABLE BRITISH EMBASSY SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF THAT OFFICIAL DECISION ON BRITISH PARTICIPATION IN MBFR II REDUCTIONS STILL NOT FORMALLY TAKEN. BUT SOURCE MADE CLEAR THAT INFORMATION REACHING HIM FROM COLLEAGUES IN FCO AND DEFENSE MINISTRY MAKES CLEAR THAT, IN CONTEXT OF "DEFENSE REVIEW," LABOR GOVERNMENT WILL "DEFINITELY" PLUMP FOR BAOR CUTS IN MBFR II. ONE QUESTION IS "HOW MANY" - SOURCE GUESSED ABOUT 10,000. OTHER KEY QUESTION IS WHETHER MBFR II CUTS WILL COME SOON ENOUGH. SOURCE THOUGHT FIVE YEAR TIME FRAME MIGHT SUFFICE.
HILLENBRAND

SECRET

NNN

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